

Amendments to the Specification:

Please add the following new paragraph on Page 1, above line 1:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

Applicant claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 of German Application No. 103 44 536.6 filed September 25, 2003. Applicant also claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §365 of PCT/EP2004/010775 filed September 24, 2004. The international application under PCT article 21(2) was not published in English.--

Please replace the paragraph on page 3, lines 9 to 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--This task is accomplished according to the invention, in the case of the method described initially, in that the strips are basted on in a first method step, by means of thermobonding or ultrasound bonding, and firmly bonded to the counter-surface in a second method step, by means of cold pressing ~~or ultrasound bonding~~. The two method steps are carried out in spatially separate workstations.--

Please replace the paragraph on page 3, line 16 to page 4, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In the case of thermobonding, bonding of the materials takes place using hot tools. In the case of ultrasound bonding, stamping dies that oscillate at high frequency are used, which produce friction heat. By means of local melting and flow processes, the materials to be bonded are merely fixed in place in a first method step. In a second method step, in a spatially separate workstation, the materials are subsequently firmly bonded by means of cold pressing ~~or ultrasound bonding~~. In a continuous diaper production, the two method steps can be carried out at the same time, in the separate workstations. By dividing the attachment method into two method steps, the dwell time that is required for applying and attaching the fastener strips and fastener bands in the case of a continuous diaper production can be reduced by up to 50%.--

Please replace the paragraph on page 5, lines 1 to 20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In the case of the method shown in Fig. 1, strips 1 are cut from the material web 2, with a cut crosswise to the running direction of the web, and passed to a first workstation 4 by means of a rotating transfer device 3. The strips 1 cut from the material web 2 consist of a carrier and a material laminated on, having fastener elements in the form of loops or hooks. In the first workstation 4, they are applied to a web 5 from which diapers or parts of diapers are produced, and basted on by means of thermobonding or ultrasound bonding. The bond produced in the first workstation 4 merely serves to fix the strips 1 in place on a surface that forms the outside of the diaper. Afterwards, the web is passed through a second workstation 6, in which the strips 1 are firmly bonded to the web 5 by means of cold pressing or ultrasound bonding. ~~In the exemplary embodiment, a station for pressing is represented.~~

Please replace the paragraph on page 6, line 22 to page 7, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--The fastener strip that consists of a carrier and a material laminated on, having female fastener elements in the form of loops, is also attached to the outside skin of the diaper